

Amyotha Hluttaw session continues for tenth day
Sending messages of condolence to flood-hit Russia and India agreed,
six questions answered

NAY PYI TAW, 17 July-Tenth day Amyotha Hluttaw regular session took place at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here this morning. It was attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 206 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

As the Hluttaw agreed on proposal of U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No (6) sending messages of condolences to Russia and India hit by flash floods, messages will be sent to the disaster-hit countries.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No (4) asked “why it takes so long to issue rules of already enacted Ward or Village Administration Law and Peaceful Assembling and Peaceful Procession Law, when they will be issued and when new ward and village administrators will be elected”. Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint explained that the President enacted Ward or Village Administration Law (Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No (1), 2012) on 24 February, 2012, Law Amending Ward or Village Administration Law (Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No (7), 2012) on 28 March, 2012. The Union government agreed on Ward or Village Administration Rule at cabinet meeting No (24/2012) in accord with Section (36) (a) and (b) of the law, the Union Minister for Home Affairs signed and issued the rule on 6 July, 2012, in accord with Section 97 (a) (i). The Home Affairs Ministry drafted the Peaceful Assembling and Peaceful Gathering Law and submitted it to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No (15), 2012, was enacted on 2 December, 2011. The rule was issued on 14 June, 2012. The rules have been sent to the Hluttaw Office on 6 July to distribute them to the Hluttaw representatives at the most immediate Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw sessions in accord with Section (137), Subsection (a) and Section (157), Sub-section (a) of the constitution.

As regards the delay in issuing the rules, the Union level organization had to revise the draft again and again in constant consultations with legal professionals since it is invested the power to do so in accord with Section (97), Sub-section (a) of the constitution which goes, “When the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacts a law, it may authorize to issue rules, regulations and bylaws concerning that law to any Union level organization formed under the Constitution”.

As the President Office directed the ministry to request budget for remuneration in Chapter (12) and office allowances in Chapter (13) of Ward or Village Administration Law on 30 June, 2012, the budget was requested at the cabinet meeting No (26/2012) on 12 July, 2012.

Considering every aspect, the drafting of Peaceful Assembling and Peaceful Procession Law was delayed. As Chairman of Diversity and Peace Party U Nay Myo Wai submitted request for peaceful assembling and procession on 15 and 16 July, the commander of Mingaladon Township Police Force has given the green light.

Applications in other townships are under scrutiny. The ministry is providing trainings to region, state and township administrators to be able to elect ward or village administrators in accordance with rules and regulations.

When the budget for remuneration and office costs was confirmed, the new ward or village administrators will be elected.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe asked “whether there is a plan to take action against filling stations for wide price gaps between local oil price and international price” and “whether there is a plan to publicize profits

from each domestic and foreign investment in specific periods in energy sectors”. Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay said: The sale of fuel has been privatized and the filling stations are allowed to distribute imported oil on which tax is levied at float prices.

The government is supervising private entrepreneurs to manage the price. If the retail price goes extreme high, the Internal Revenue Department and local authorities will take measures to contain the situation. It has been made clear at Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw.

The ministry is monitoring retail prices of oil at filling stations daily. The ministry warned against oil importers who sold the fuel at abnormal prices on 1-3-2011, 1-7-2011 and 6-4-2012.

The prices at filling stations in Yangon depend on the prices of Mean of Platt’s Singapore (MOPS). If the prices between April, 2011, and June, 2012, are compared, the connection can be seen clearly. If compared with prices of neighbouring countries, the fuel in Myanmar is cheaper.

The filling stations did not make changes to the price set when the oil was imported. Though, the price is still above the normal level compared with MOPS daily prices. The people have been warned of the case since November, 2011, for public awareness.

Regarding the oil distributed monthly to region and state entrepreneurs by the ministry, the ministry compiled detailed sale records of their filling stations to manage the price through taxation and sent them to the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Region and State governments and Myanmar Fuel Oil Import Association every month.

The ministry has requested the association to sell oil at least possible price.

The association is trying to convince private entrepreneurs.

The ministry has signed Production Sharing Contract (PSC), Improved Petroleum Recovery (IPR), Performance Compensation Contract (PCC), Modified Performance Compensation Contract (MPCC) with foreign investors for inland oil and natural gas exploration. The ministry is in PSC deals with foreign investors for offshore blocks.

Myanmar has earned US\$ 1246.443 million out from income of Yadana project of US\$ 1628.990 million since 2011-2012 fiscal year. The country also earned US\$ 1311.883 million from income of Yedagun Project US\$ 1982.150 million. The incomes have been handed over to the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, taking off the cost of operation for Yedagun project US\$ 72.228 million and Yadana project US\$ 46.073 million. Abundant natural gas of the country is sold to foreign countries. Petroleum and other products have to be bought with the earnings of gas. The Ministry of Finance and Revenue is informing Hluttaws of the budget.

U Naing Tun Ohn of Mon State Constituency (5) asked “whether there is a plan to cut down rubber plants owned by the Ministry of Industry to develop Phaungsein Village in Thanbyuzayat Township to an urban ward”. Deputy Industry Minister U Myo Aung said rubber plants in rubber plantation No (3) in Thanbyuzayat with 295 acres owned by the ministry have enter into 23 or 25 years, with the highest production capacity.

A total of 7200 rubber plants are grown on the 40-acre land, with the current price of K 308 million. These rubber plants could produce 10000 tons of rubber yearly, earning K 12 million for the country.

Urbanizing Phaungsein Village is concern of the Union government and respective state government. U Aye of Mandalay Region Constituency No (97) asked “whether there is a plan to upgrade Basic Education High School (Branch) of Singu village-tract in NyaungU Township in NyaungU District of Mandalay to BEHS” and “whether there is a plan to upgrade Myingaba Village BEMS (Branch) to

BEMS". Deputy Education Minister U Ba Shwe said the ministry is upgrading schools and opening new schools from 2012-2013 academic year to 2015- 2016 academic year in four-year plan.

As there are 341 high school students in BEHS (Branch) of Singu village-tract, it will be upgraded to BEHS.

As there are 340 middle school students in BEMS (Branch) in Myingaba Village, it will be upgraded to BEMS.

The meeting concluded at 11.5 am. The eleventh day session is held on 18 July. At today's session, the Hluttaw agreed on sending messages of condolences to flood-hit Russia and India and six questions were answered.-MNA

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